

Letter to the Editor

I read with interest the recent article by Ricci, Finley, and Grimwood entitled "Treatment of Cutaneous Hemangiomas in Preterm Neonatal Twins with the Flashlamp-Pumped Pulsed Dye Laser." We published our original article on treating early capillary hemangiomas with the pulsed dye laser in 1989 [1]. To my knowledge it was the first article on treating early capillary hemangiomas with the pulsed dye laser. Our patient was 6 days old (the article states the youngest patient prior to their publication was 2 weeks old). Because we had no idea how the patient would respond, we initially tested the patient as opposed to treating the entire area as soon as possible (as we now do). I disagree with their concluding statement regarding the questioning of accelerated regression and improved cosmetic results with this treatment. It has been almost 10 years since our initial publication, and I feel there has been more than enough results with this treatment modality to conclude at this point in time that this treat-

ment accelerates regression of hemangiomas with a better and, in many cases, a far superior result than with no treatment. It also diminishes the likelihood of parents dealing with a unsightly, ulcerated, and at times bleeding lesion for years.

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REFERENCE

1. Glassberg E, Lask G, Rabinowitz L, Tunnessen W. Capillary hemangiomas: case study of a novel laser treatment and a review of therapeutic options. *J Dermatol Surg Oncol* 1989; 15:1214-1222.